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ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS



Letter from the President

Another year is fast drawing to a close, and as members of the Illinois State Historical Society we can look back with pride on our accomplishments.

Through the generous support of friends such as you, the Society has been able to meet its financial commitment to the Student Historian Award Program, the Centennial Business Program, the Congress of Illinois Historical Societies and Museums, as well as many others. These programs are an integral part of the preservation and education efforts we support for the benefit of Illinois history, which is, of course, our mission.

We also have some very exciting plans for 1986 and beyond. The Long Range Planning Committee is working on a multi-year plan to expand our programming and to commemorate such important events as the 1987 Bicentennial of the Northwest Ordinance and the 1989 Centennial of the Illinois State Historical Library.

We need your help in order to realize our goals and dreams. As you know, as a not-for-profit agency, the Illinois State Historical Society relies entirely on gifts and donations from its members and friends. Please take a moment to complete the attached donation form and return it with your tax-deductible contribution at your earliest convenience. Your contribution can open the doors of discovery for our school children or provide much needed support for museum and history professionals.

The future of Illinois and her citizens is bright with hope, yet we must first know where we have been and what we have done before we can plot the course for the next generation. Your contribution is an important part of that learning and discovery process, and we thank you for your faithful support.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Plummer, Ph.D.
President

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*Preserving the Past
for the sake of our
Future*



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PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Illinois School Services Program

The Illinois School Services Program, which was begun in 1947, is an effective aid in the teaching of Illinois history in elementary and secondary institutions. This program, funded in part by the Illinois State Historical Society, publishes **My State Reader** for Grades 2-3, **Stories From Illinois History** for Grades 4-6, and **Illinois History**, a magazine written by and for teenagers.

The School Services section also conducts regional and state history fairs. Junior and senior high school students are given the opportunity to research the history of their state or locality through their own special creative skills in painting, handicraft, photography, and industrial arts. An Annual Award Day program recognizes achievements of these student historians and their teachers.

Congress of Illinois Historical Societies and Museums

The Congress of Illinois Historical Societies and Museums was formed in 1966 by the Illinois State Historical Society to assist local historical agencies and museums throughout Illinois. The Congress serves as a clearinghouse for financial and grant information, provides technical assistance, and is an advocacy group for its member organizations. Today it is recognized by the Midwest Museums Conference of the American Association of Museums as the official museum organization in Illinois. Through the Congress, local organizations have access to consultant services and Society members who are experts in preservation and historical program management. In addition, the Congress sponsors a variety of technical and administrative workshops throughout the state and publishes a quarterly newsletter.



THE SOCIETY

Historical Markers Program

The Illinois State Historical Society sponsors a statewide historical markers program in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Transportation. Subjects of significance in Illinois history are nominated by local historical societies and civic organizations. The markers are placed at sites selected by the Historic Sites and Markers Committee of the Society. The Department of Transportation places directional signs and turnouts on the roadways to assist motorists in viewing these markers, which are an important tool in the teaching of Illinois history to all ages.

Symposia

The Illinois State Historical Society sponsors two symposia each year. The Illinois History Symposium brings together professional and amateur historians to explore and discuss a variety of topics relevant to our heritage. The Abraham Lincoln Symposium, held each February, gives Society members an opportunity to hear scholars discuss Lincoln -- his life and influence.

Tours

The Society sponsors tours throughout the state at minimal cost to its members. The tours feature historic sites and other places of interest in and around a host community.

Centennial Business Program

In 1984, the Illinois State Historical Society launched a new program to honor Illinois businesses which have been in continuous operation for 100 years or more. To date, 294 businesses have been officially designated as an Illinois Centennial Business and publicly recognized for their dedication to our state. The Centennial Business Program has proven to be an important mechanism for tracking the economic, business, and even social history of Illinois.

ANNUAL GIVING DONATION FORM

Date: _____
Enclosed is \$ _____ to be used for the purpose I have indicated, payable to Illinois State Historical Society

I prefer to make a pledge of \$ _____, payable over one year in _____ installments.
Please remind me when an installment is due.

Name (Please print or type)

Address

City, State and Zip Code

Gifts to the Illinois State Historical Society are tax deductible when you itemize your tax return.

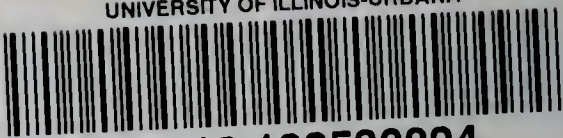
Enclosed is a donation to the Illinois State Historical Society for:

- ☐ General Operating Support (to meet budget needs determined by the Board of Directors)
- ☐ School Services Program (to help fund Award Day, regional history fairs, and other projects)
- ☐ Congress of Illinois Historical Societies and Museums (to provide services to local organizations)
- ☐ Founders' Club (to purchase items for the Illinois State Historical Library; \$100 annual minimum gift)
- ☐ Other _____ (Please indicate activity you wish to support)



ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Old State Capitol
Springfield, Illinois 62701

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